

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

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EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 ERDA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 H-02

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DRAFTED BY OES/NET/RD:JBDEVINE:LMT

APPROVED BY OES/NET:MBKRATZER

NEA - ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR.

NSC -MESSRS.OAKLEY,ELLIOT, LAZAR

PM/NPO - JOHN MCGUINNESS

ERDA - GERARD HELFRICH

NEA/IAI - XENIA VUNOVICH

NEA/EGY - GORDON BEYER

S/S: PSBRIDGES

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AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232891

RIO DE JANEIRO FOR KRATZER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH EGYPT AND ISRAEL

REF: (A) CAIRO 11573 (NOTAL) (B) CAIRO 11595

1. IN RESPONSE TO REF A, WHICH (FOR BENEFIT OF INFO

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ADDRESSEES) REQUESTED STATUS REPORT ON U.S./EGYPTIAN NUC-

LEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT, YOU MAY INFORM SULTAN THAT BOTH EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO WHITE HOUSE BY ERDA ADMINISTRATOR SEAMANS WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROCESSED FOR POSSIBLE SUBMISSION TO THE CONGRESS IN THIS SESSION. A DECISION ON SUBMISSION WILL HINGE ON EVALUATION OF CURRENT ATMOSPHERE ON HILL AND LIKELY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON AGREEMENTS PENDING NEW NUCLEAR LEGISLATION NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY, AND ONGOING WHITE HOUSE NUCLEAR STUDY GROUP EFFORTS. (NOTE: IN RESPONSE TO AN UPSURGE OF CONCERN IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT VARIOUS NUCLEAR ISSUES, INCLUDING PROLIFERATION, PRESIDENT FORD ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE UNITED STATES, FOR ITS PART AND WORKING WITH OTHERS, IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO ABATE THE FURTHER SPREAD OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES. THE GROUP WAS ALSO ASKED TO REVIEW U.S. POLICIES IN THE CRITICAL FIELDS OF REPROCESSING AND HIGH

LEVEL WASTE DISPOSAL. THE PRESIDENT IS NOW STUDYING THE RESULTS OF THE TASK FORCE REVIEW.) ALSO RELEVANT IS FACT THAT AGREEMENTS COULD NOT COME INTO FORCE IN THIS SESSION BECAUSE OF REQUIREMENT FOR 60 LEGISLATIVE DAY CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD, EXCEPT IN UNLIKELY EVENT OF CONGRESS RECONVENING AFTER ELECTION FOR FAIRLY LENGTHY PERIOD. IN RELAYING THE ABOVE, YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT EXECUTIVE BRANCH INTEREST IN AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION REMAINS JUST AS STRONG AS EVER AND THAT OUR DELAY IN SUBMITTING TO CONGRESS RELATES SOLELY TO TACTICS INVOLVED IN MAXIMIZING CHANCES FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. OBVIOUSLY, NEW CONGRESSIONAL NUCLEAR INITIATIVES HAVE HAD A DIRECT BEARING ON THESE TACTICS. (NOTE: SEVERAL BILLS FAVORING SOME RIGOROUS U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS ARE NOW UNDER ACTIVE CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAS TAKEN EXCEPTION TO SEVERAL OF THE FORMULATIONS. THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE IN CONGRESS IS HIGHLY CHARGED ON THE PROLIFERATION ISSUE AND WE MUST, THEREFORE, CHOOSE OUR TACTICS IN HANDLING NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS VERY CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO AVOID ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

2. IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHAT FAHMY HAD IN MIND
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RAISING THE QUESTION OF "IMPLEMENTATION. THERE MAY BE TECHNICAL DIFFERENCES IN THE NATURE AND TIMING OF THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS TO BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE TWO AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE OUR INTENTION TO APPLY SIMILAR PROCEDURES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BOTH AGREEMENTS. ROBINSON

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